

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Withdrawn, currently amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid sequence capable of hybridizing to a ~~region of the long arm of chromosome 9 between D9S127 and D9S59~~, polymorphism selected from the group consisting of D9S53, D9S105, D9S309, D9S310, D9S172, D9S174 and D9S127 present on chromosome 9, wherein said sequence is sufficiently linked to the familial dysautonomia gene predictive of the transmission or development of familial dysautonomia, ~~to diagnose familial dysautonomia with the proviso that the nucleic acid sequence is not a sequence selected from the group consisting of D9S58 and D9S59.~~

19. (Withdrawn, currently amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid sequence capable of hybridizing to a ~~region of the long arm of chromosome 9 between D9S53 and D9S105~~, polymorphism selected from the group consisting of D9S53, D9S105, D9S309, D9S310, D9S172, D9S174 and D9S127 present on chromosome 9, wherein said sequence is sufficiently linked to the familial dysautonomia gene predictive of the transmission or development of familial dysautonomia, ~~to diagnose familial dysautonomia with the proviso that the nucleic acid sequence is not a sequence selected from the group consisting of D9S58 and D9S59.~~

20 - 26 (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[26]]~~ 34, wherein the polymorphism is detected by autoradiography.

28 - 33 (Cancelled)

34. (New) A method for predicting the transmission or development of familial dysautonomia in a human subject, said method comprising:

determining whether a polymorphism selected from the group consisting of D9S59, D9S53, D9S58, D9S105, D9S309, D9S310, D9S172, D9S174 and D9S127 is present on chromosome 9 of said subject, wherein the presence of said polymorphism is predictive of the transmission or development of familial dysautonomia, and

predicting for said subject the transmission or development of familial dysautonomia based on the presence or absence of said polymorphism.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the subject is of Ashkenazi Jewish descent.